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APPLICATION NO.	FILING DATE	FIRST NAMED INVENTOR	ATTORNEY DOCKET NO.	CONFIRMATION NO.
09/699,209	10/27/2000	Takefumi Nagumo	450100-02802	8273
20999	7590	09/06/2005	EXAMINER	
FROMMER LAWRENCE & HAUG 745 FIFTH AVENUE- 10TH FL. NEW YORK, NY 10151			RAO, ANAND SHASHIKANT	
			ART UNIT	PAPER NUMBER
			2613	

DATE MAILED: 09/06/2005

Please find below and/or attached an Office communication concerning this application or proceeding.

**SUPPLEMENTAL
Notice of Allowability**

Application No.

09/699,209

Examiner

Andy S. Rao

Applicant(s)

NAGUMO ET AL.

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-- The MAILING DATE of this communication appears on the cover sheet with the correspondence address--

All claims being allowable, PROSECUTION ON THE MERITS IS (OR REMAINS) CLOSED in this application. If not included herewith (or previously mailed), a Notice of Allowance (PTOL-85) or other appropriate communication will be mailed in due course. **THIS NOTICE OF ALLOWABILITY IS NOT A GRANT OF PATENT RIGHTS.** This application is subject to withdrawal from issue at the initiative of the Office or upon petition by the applicant. See 37 CFR 1.313 and MPEP 1308.

1. ☒ This communication is responsive to 3/31/05.
2. ☒ The allowed claim(s) is/are 1-28.
3. ☒ The drawings filed on 27 October 2000 are accepted by the Examiner.
4. ☒ Acknowledgment is made of a claim for foreign priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119(a)-(d) or (f).
 - a) ☒ All b) ☐ Some* c) ☐ None of the:
 1. ☒ Certified copies of the priority documents have been received.
 2. ☐ Certified copies of the priority documents have been received in Application No. _____.
 3. ☐ Copies of the certified copies of the priority documents have been received in this national stage application from the International Bureau (PCT Rule 17.2(a)).

* Certified copies not received: _____.

Applicant has THREE MONTHS FROM THE "MAILING DATE" of this communication to file a reply complying with the requirements noted below. Failure to timely comply will result in ABANDONMENT of this application.
THIS THREE-MONTH PERIOD IS NOT EXTENDABLE.

5. ☐ A SUBSTITUTE OATH OR DECLARATION must be submitted. Note the attached EXAMINER'S AMENDMENT or NOTICE OF INFORMAL PATENT APPLICATION (PTO-152) which gives reason(s) why the oath or declaration is deficient.
 6. ☐ CORRECTED DRAWINGS (as "replacement sheets") must be submitted.
 - (a) ☐ including changes required by the Notice of Draftsperson's Patent Drawing Review (PTO-948) attached
 - 1) ☐ hereto or 2) ☐ to Paper No./Mail Date _____.
 - (b) ☐ including changes required by the attached Examiner's Amendment / Comment or in the Office action of Paper No./Mail Date _____.
- Identifying indicia such as the application number (see 37 CFR 1.84(c)) should be written on the drawings in the front (not the back) of each sheet. Replacement sheet(s) should be labeled as such in the header according to 37 CFR 1.121(d).
7. ☐ DEPOSIT OF and/or INFORMATION about the deposit of BIOLOGICAL MATERIAL must be submitted. Note the attached Examiner's comment regarding REQUIREMENT FOR THE DEPOSIT OF BIOLOGICAL MATERIAL.

Attachment(s)

1. ☐ Notice of References Cited (PTO-892)
2. ☐ Notice of Draftsperson's Patent Drawing Review (PTO-948)
3. ☐ Information Disclosure Statements (PTO-1449 or PTO/SB/08),
Paper No./Mail Date _____
4. ☐ Examiner's Comment Regarding Requirement for Deposit
of Biological Material
5. ☐ Notice of Informal Patent Application (PTO-152)
6. ☐ Interview Summary (PTO-413),
Paper No./Mail Date _____
7. ☒ Examiner's Amendment/Comment
8. ☒ Examiner's Statement of Reasons for Allowance
9. ☐ Other _____

ANDY RAO
PRIMARY EXAMINER

EXAMINER'S AMENDMENT

1. An examiner's amendment to the record appears below. Should the changes and/or additions be unacceptable to applicant, an amendment may be filed as provided by 37 CFR 1.312. To ensure consideration of such an amendment, it MUST be submitted no later than the payment of the issue fee.

2. The application has been amended as follows:

In the claims:

A). Claim 5 is amended with the following: A set of instructions stored on a processor readable medium executable by a processor, which when executed by said processor, performs a signal processing method for multiplexing first and second bit streams, each of said first and second bit streams being formatted in accordance with a different standard, comprising: a dividing step for dividing said second bit stream into access units; an adding step for adding a start code in a format corresponding to the standard of said first bit stream to each of said access units obtained by dividing said second bit streams wherein said adding step transforms said divided second bit stream prior to adding said start code if said start code of said first bit stream for receiving said second bit stream is subjected to certain restrictions; and a multiplexing step for defining a user operable region in access unit of said first bit stream and multiplexing and recording at least part of said second bit stream on said user operable region.

B). Claim 9 is amended with the following: A recording medium storing a program for multiplex first and second bit streams, each of said first and second bit streams being formatted in accordance with a different standard, said program comprising: a dividing step for dividing

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said second bit stream into access units; an adding step for adding a start code in a format corresponding to the standard of said first bit stream to each of said access units obtained by dividing said second bit streams wherein said adding step transforms said divided second bit stream prior to adding said start code if said start code of said first bit stream for receiving said second bit stream is subjected to certain restrictions; and a multiplexing step for defining a user operable region in access unit of said first bit stream and multiplexing and recording at least part of said second bit stream on said user operable region.

C). Claim 13 is amended with the following: A computer readable recording medium storing a program comprising a set of instructions, executable by a computer, which when executed by said computer causes the computer to perform said program for decoding a multiplexed bit stream conforming to a first standard format obtained by defining a user operable region in access unit of a first bit stream and multiplexing and recording at least part of a second bit stream conforming to a second standard format different from said first standard format, said second bit stream also conforming to a syntax of said first standard format, on said user operable region, said program comprising: a step for detecting the user operable region in said multiplexed bit stream and extracting the data contained in said user operable region; a step for conducting a predetermined converting operation on said data contained in said user operable region and restoring the second bit stream, which was divided into access units. added a start code of said first bit stream to each of said access units, and transformed said divided second bit stream prior to adding said start code if said start code was subjected to certain restrictions; and a step for decoding said first bit stream contained in said multiplex bit stream except said user operable region and said second bit stream.

Allowable Subject Matter

3. Claims 1-28 are allowed.

Independent claims 1, 5, 9, and 11-13 recite an apparatus (claims 1 and 11), method (claims 5 and 10), and recording medium (claims 9 and 13) including the limitation of "... an adding means for adding a start code in a format corresponding to the standard of said first bit stream to each of said access units obtained by dividing said second bit streams wherein said adding means transforms said divided second bit stream prior to adding said start code if said start code of said first bit stream for receiving said second bit stream is subjected to certain restrictions..." which is a feature that is not anticipated nor obvious over the art of record.

Dependent claims 2-4, 6-8, 10, and 14-28 are allowed for the reasons concerning the independent claims.

4. Any inquiry concerning this communication or earlier communications from the examiner should be directed to Andy S. Rao whose telephone number is (571)-272-7337. The examiner can normally be reached on Monday-Friday 8 hours.

If attempts to reach the examiner by telephone are unsuccessful, the examiner's supervisor, Mehrdad S. Dastouri can be reached on (571)-272-7418. The fax phone number for the organization where this application or proceeding is assigned is 571-273-8300.

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Information regarding the status of an application may be obtained from the Patent Application Information Retrieval (PAIR) system. Status information for published applications may be obtained from either Private PAIR or Public PAIR. Status information for unpublished applications is available through Private PAIR only. For more information about the PAIR system, see <http://pair-direct.uspto.gov>. Should you have questions on access to the Private PAIR system, contact the Electronic Business Center (EBC) at 866-217-9197 (toll-free).

Andy S. Rao
Primary Examiner
Art Unit 2613

asr
August 31, 2005

ANDY RAO
PRIMARY EXAMINER

